eco-development plan to garner funds for global environment facility;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a similar proposal for GEF was rejected in 1992;

(c) if so, what were the reasons of its rejection ; and

(d) what are the new facts of the present proposal for GEF with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) The Ministry is drawing up a practical and comprehensive Plan to pose projects under the GEF.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Pollution created by Bihar Caustic and Chemicals Limited

5603. SHRI RANJAN PRASAD YADAV:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bihar Caustic and Chemicals Limited, situated in Palamu district of Bihar, has floated all the existing provisions on environmental protection;

(b) whether it is a fact that it is polluting the land, water and air through the regular discharge of sodium hydroxide, leakage of chlorine, release of hydrochloric acid vapours in the air an dumping of mercury waste in the ground, thereby affecting health of the people in the area; and

(c) if so, what steps, if any, Government intend to take to ensure the compliance with enviornmental regulation to save the ecology and people of Palamu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Bihar State Pollution Control Board has reported that as per its directions, necessary pollution control measures have been taken by the unit, and that presently there is no significant pollution problem. The Bihar Board has also reported that BCCL have first stage and second stage hypo towers for absorption of chlorine. Any hydro-chloric acid in the effluent is removed by neutralization. Such escaping of HCL in the effluent has been very much reduced by improving the plan operation. Mercury sludge is stored in pucca pit which is bottom sealed to avoid any seepage or percolation in the ground water.

(c) Does not arise.

Denotification of Dandeli sanctuary in Karnataka

5604. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
SHRI RANJAN PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of ENVIORNMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dandeli Game Sanctuary in the Dakshina Karada district of Karnataka has been denotified and its area reduced;

(b) whether Government are aware that such a step will lead to deforestation in the name of collecting dead wood; and

(c) if so, what steps, if any, are being taken by Government to prevent the illegal felling of trees in the denotified area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) It is reported by the Chief Wildlife Warden of Karnataka that a proposal for reduction of the area of the Dandeli